Message Text

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P R 201211Z APR 78 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8013 AMCONSUL IBADAN AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, SOCI, BENC, NI, US, PL

SUBJECT: NEW CAPITAL: USGS PROBLEM/POLISH INTEREST

REF: LAGOS 4647

1. ALTHOUGH VITUALLY ALL SUBSTANTIVE FEDERAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CD) OFFICIALS ARE TRAVELING FREQUENTLY, EMBOFF CAUGHT CDA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY KOKO ON SECOND OF TWO DAYS IN TOWN THIS WEEK. HE WILL BE AWAY APRIL 20-MAY 2. ON USGS PROBLEM, KOKO'S VERSION WAS MUCH THE SAME AS BREHM'S EXCEPT THAT KOKO OMITTED ANY MENTION OF POLES DOING ANY WORK AND SAID IT WAS HD, NOT THE CHAIRMAN, WHO OBJECTED TO USGS PROPOSALS. HE SAID THE WORK INVOLVED IN MOST RECENT USGS PIPS WOULD TAKE TOO LONG AND HE IS PARTICULARLY OPPOSED TO QUOTE KEEPING AND STORING THE DATA IN THE US UNQUOTE BECAUSE HE NEEDS INFORMATION AS IT IS ACQUIRED. HE SAID HE HAS LEARNED THAT THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES HAS ALREADY CONTRACTED FOR A HYDOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE CAPITAL TERRITORY. HE EXPECTS TO REVIEW CONTRACT'S TERMS OF REFERENCE AFTER HIS RETURN FROM ABROAD MAY 2. HE HAS ALSO ASKED A CONSULTING ORGANIZATION OPERATED BY THE UNIVERSITIES OF IFE AND AHMADU BELLO FOR PROPOSALS WHICH HE WILL ALSO REVIEW UPON RETURN. HE SAID THESE INSTITUTIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMPLAINED THAT THEY HAD ASSISTED USGS BUT RECEIVED NO RECOGNITION IN THE USGS REPORT.

2. WHAT HE WANTS MOST FROM USGS IS ONE ADVISOR, PREFERABLY BY FIRST OR SECOND WEEK OF MAY, TO EVALUATE ABOVE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO KOKO ON WHAT IS FEASIBLE AND WHAT IS NOT FEASIBLE. HE WOULD LIKE USGS ADVISOR TO REMAIN FOR DURATION

OF WORK, WHICH PRESUMABLY WOULD TAKE AT LEAST SEVERAL MONTHS. HE PREFERS SAME MAN BUT WOULD AGREE TO DIFFERENT ADVISORS IF NEEDED FOR DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES.

- 3. RECOMMENDATION: PASS ABOVE QUICKLY TO USGS. IF, AFTER HEARING FROM IPA, USGS HAS CLEAR ENOUGH PICTURE TO KNOW WHAT KOKO NEEDS, RECOMMEND IT SEND A MAN HERE EARLY MAY TO ASSIST IN REVIEWING WATER RESOURCES CONTRACT AND UNIVERSITIES' PROPOSALS AND TO ASSESS REMAINING TASKS WITH OBJECTIVE OF DECIDING WHETHER USGS CAN CONTINUE TO ASSIST. THIS HAS VIRTUES OF (1) KEEPING USGS IN PROJECT; (2) PROVIDING EXPERT ADVICE TO KOKO AND MASTER PLANNERS; (3) AVOIDING, WHEN POSSIBLE, IRREVERSIBLE ERRORS IN PLANNING AND DESIGNING NEW CAPITAL; (4) KEEPING AN EYE ON THE POLES IF THEY ARE ENGAGED; (5) REDUCING USGS PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW CAPITAL.
- 4. IF USGS WAS UNABLE TO SUBMIT BY APRIL 19 LARGER REVISED PROPOSAL REQUESTED BY BREHM THROUGH LOCKWOOD, USGS MAN COULD BRING IT WITH HIM IN MAY.
- 5. RE POLISH INTEREST, POLISH COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR CONFIRMED TO PETROLEUM OFFICER LAST NIGHT THAT POLES HAD BEEN ASKED IF THEY WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE FOR HYDROLOGY WORK BUT THAT NOTHING HAD BEEN DECIDED YET.
 WYMAN

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